

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 807

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to recognize Betty Pippin Knight on the occasion  
of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Betty Pippin Knight is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for 32 years as a School Crossing Guard and as a School Crossing Guard Supervisor; and

WHEREAS, born November 16, 1936 in a two-room log house in Cookeville, Tennessee to Bethel and Vera Pippin, Betty grew up in a family with three sisters and a brother; and

WHEREAS, Betty Pippin attended Pippin Elementary School, a two-room school house, for eight years, and graduated from Cookeville Central High School in 1954; after completing one year at Tennessee Technological University, she deferred her education for a period, eventually attending the Great Commission School in Bible; she graduated with an Associate Degree in Evangelism in 1980 and earned a postgraduate degree in 1988; and

WHEREAS, possessing a great work ethic, Betty went to work at the Dipsy Doodle Drive-In Restaurant at age 14, working five years to pay her way through high school and one

year of college; she met George Knight at the Dipsy Doodle at age 16 and married him two years later; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight first went to work as a School Crossing Guard (the School Mothers' Patrol) on February 1, 1970, and for the past 32 years, she has performed that duty admirably, eventually rising to School Crossing Guard Supervisor; she has also assisted in the implementation of the Day School and taught three-year-olds at West Nashville Heights Church of Christ, taught several age groups at Temple Play School, taught and managed the kitchen at Enrichment Centers of America, and worked several years with the Information Center for the Chamber of Commerce and in the Chamber's Conventions operation, where she still works part-time; and

WHEREAS, Betty Knight is an active and important part of her community, participating in numerous civic organizations, including meritorious service as President, Treasurer and holding various chairmanships and fundraisers for the PTA; serving as Den Leader for the Cub Scouts and assisting with the Girl Scouts; serving on the Head Start Policy Council Board and appearing in commercials on television for Head Start; helping to achieve pension increases for widows of firemen and policemen; working as a volunteer for the March of Dimes for many years; and working for community improvements in the Bowling-West End Avenue area, including through political action; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight has been tireless in her pursuit of benefits for School Crossing Guards, including working for a benefits and insurance package for all groups, serving for many years as Secretary and Treasurer and publishing a newsletter for her group; achieving enactment of an ordinance to permit anyone, regardless of gender, to work, stay or transfer; decorating, serving and cleaning up for group meetings; administering the flower fund; and winning First Runner-Up in the May 11, 2000 Crossing Guard of the Year Contest; and

WHEREAS, Betty Knight is a faithful member and tireless worker in the West Nashville Heights Church of Christ, having taught Fourth Grade in Vacation Bible School, First Grade in Sunday School, Little Tots on Wednesday nights, Children's Bible Hour on Sunday Nights and

having helped in the Learning Center for needy Students. She has participated in the Adoptive Grandparents Program; served as Secretary and Treasurer of the Personal Work Class; made special visits to nursing homes, hospitals and care centers; assisted needy families with other miscellaneous projects; served as a member and Treasurer of Christian Pioneers and a member of Sisters in Christ to meet the needs of church members; and toured the Holy Land with her church group, visiting Israel, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Jordan, Luxor in Egypt, Greece and Holland; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; she is grateful for the love and support of her husband, George, retired since August 24, 2001 from Security Link of Ameritech Alarm Company, and daughter and son-in-law Debbie and Ron Davis, daughter Lana Knight; son and daughter-in-law David and Donya Knight, and seven grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Betty Knight has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their potential, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her peers and superiors alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we extend to Betty Pippin Knight our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement from her long and distinguished service as a School Crossing Guard and Crossing Guard Supervisor and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.